



# LEWIS & CLARK CITY-COUNTY Health Department

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## LEAD EDUCATION AND ABATEMENT PROGRAM

### **Time for Spring Cleaning or maybe a Remodeling Project?**

The East Helena Lead Education and Abatement Program (EHLEAP) has purchased two new HEPA vacuums to help you out with those projects. One is an industrial quality wet/dry shop vacuum for remodeling and renovations projects and the other is a commercial quality vacuum for interior cleaning.

What is a HEPA vacuum you may be asking yourself? HEPA vacuum means a vacuum cleaner which has been designed with a high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter as the last filtration stage and designed so that all the air drawn into the machine is expelled through the HEPA filter with none of the air leaking past it." A HEPA filter is a filter that is capable of capturing particles of 0.3 microns with 99.97% efficiency." HEPA vacuums are adequately equipped to safely collect hazardous lead dust generated during renovation and remodeling projects. They are equally beneficial for asthma and allergy sufferers during spring cleaning projects (ie. cleaning carpets, curtains, furniture) because the filter traps the fine particles (such as pollen and dust mite feces) which trigger allergy and asthma symptoms.

EHLEAP has developed a loan program for the use of the HEPA vacuums by all East Helena area residents. The borrower will be required to submit a work plan detailing the project to be completed prior to signing the loan agreement. The loan agreement states they will be liable for any damages to the vacuum or missing parts.

If you have any additional questions call Debb or Jan at 457-8583.

*The mission of the Lewis and Clark City-County Health Department is to improve and protect the health of all Lewis and Clark County residents.*